

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

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INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USDEL ALEXANDRIA

USDEL JERUSALEM

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USIA FOR IOP/M, IPS, IBS, INA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN PFOR XF EG IS JO PLO

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION -- NEW INTERIM AGREEMENT IN SINAI

1. SUMMARY. PALESTINIAN ORGANS AND SPOKESMEN ARE ESCALATING THEIR WAR OF WORDS AGAINST "AMERICAN SOLUTION" IN GENERAL AND SINAI ACCORD IN PARTICULAR. PLO ORGAN "FILASTIN ATH-THAWRA", PFLP ORGAN "AL-HADAF", AND PLO CHAIRMAN YASIR ARAFAT INVEIGH IN BROAD TERMS AGAINST "AMERICAN SOLUTION", WHILE ASIFA LEADER ABU SALIH DETAILS HIS VIEW OF MANY EVILS OF SINAI ACCORD. "AL-HADAF" AND ABU SALIH ALSO WEIGH IN AGAINST "AGENT JORDANIAN REGIME". PRO-IRAQI "BEIRUT" AND LEFTIST "AS-SAFIR" HAVE FURTHER BLISTERING WORDS AGAINST SINAI ACCORD, ESPECIALLY PROPOSED AMERICAN PRESENCE, WHICH THEY SEE AS NEW FORM OF OCCUPATION. PRO-EGYPTIAN "AL-YAWM" USES CONGRESSIONAL FEARS OF NEW MILITARY INVOLVEMENT TO CALL ON U.S. TO BE NEUTRAL IN MIDEAST. END SUMMARY.

2. REJECTING "AMERICAN SOLUTION" AS PLOT AGAINST PALESTINE,
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PLO WEEKLY ORGAN "FILASTIN ATH-THAWRA" WRITES IN LEAD

EDITORIAL: "PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION CONSIDERS IMPERIALIST AMERICAN SOLUTIONS THREAT TO FUTURE AND SECURITY OF ARAB NATION. HOW CAN ANYONE TALK OF PEACE WHILE AMERICAN PLOT TAKES AIM AGAINST PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, PALESTINIAN PRESENCE, PALESTINIAN FUTURE, AND PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION...? LET EVERYONE FAR AND NEAR KNOW: PALESTINIAN REVOLUTIONARIES WILL NOT BE PAWNS ON GAME BOARD OF AMERICAN PLOT."

3. CALLING FOR RETURN TO BASIC PRINCIPLES IN STRUGGLE AGAINST SETTLEMENT, PFLP WEEKLY ORGAN "AL-HADAF" WRITES IN LEAD EDITORIAL: "SETTLEMENT INTENDS NOT ONLY TO CONSECRATE ZIONIST PRESENCE IN PALESTINE, BUT ALSO TO FORCE ARAB NATION TO SUBMIT TO IMPERIALISTS... WHAT CAN BE DONE...? PRINCIPLES THAT WILL PERMIT US IN END TO LIBERATE PARTS OF OUR NATION IN WHICH TO CREATE REVOLUTIONARY AUTHORITY... ARE: (A) ADHERENCE TO PALESTINIAN NATIONAL CHARTER; (B) OPPOSITION TO SC RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338; (C) REJECTION OF LIQUIDATIONIST GENEVA CONFERENCE; (D) ESCALATION OF ARMED STRUGGLE; (E) CREATION OF JORDANIAN-PALESTINIAN NATIONALIST FRONT TO MOBILIZE MASSES AND LEAD THEM TO OVERTHROW AGENT JORDANIAN REGIME IN FAVOR OF DEMOCRATIC NATIONALIST RULE."

4. PLO CHAIRMAN YASIR ARAFAT IS QUOTED IN SEVERAL PAPERS AS SAYING DURING ADDRESS TO GRADUATES OF FATAH TRAINING CAMP IN SYRIA: "THIS AMERICAN SOLUTION CANNOT OCCUR... AMERICAN PLOT AIMS... TO TURN TIGERS INTO KITTENS.... THIS AMERICAN PLOT WILL BE CRUSHED, CRUSHED AGAINST ROCK OF PALESTINIAN ARAB STEADFASTNESS.... OUR REVOLUTIONARIES WILL SAY NO TO AMERICAN SOLUTION, NO TO IMPERIALIST SETTLEMENT, YES TO PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION."

5. DETAILING HIS VIEW OF MANY EVILS OF SINAI ACCORD, ABU SALAH, MEMBER OF FATAH CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND ASIFA GENERAL COMMAND, DECLARES IN LEADING LEFTIST PRO-PLO "AL-MUHARRIR": "NEW AGREEMENT... BLATANTLY CONSECRATES EGYPT'S ISLATION FROM ARAB NATION, AMERICAN MILITARY PRESENCE IN SINAI, IMPOSITION OF IMPERIALIST, ZIONIST, REACTIONARY CONDITIONS ON OTHER FRONTS, AND COMPLETE ABANDONMENT OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE'S CAUSE...TO THIS MUST BE ADDED STILL-BORN ATTEMPTS TO REVIVE KING HUSSEIN'S REGIME ... AND PRESSURE PALESTINIAN UNCLASSIFIED

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RESISTANCE INTO ACCEPTING HIM AS SPOKESMAN FOR PALESTINE WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF SURRENDERIST SOLUTION. WE REJECT AND OPPOSE THIS.... WE CONSIDER SILENCE OVER WHAT IS NOW HAPPENING IN SINAI AS PARTICIPATION IN THIS CRIME.... FATAH, BACKBONE OF PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION, EMPHASIZES AGAIN ... THAT IT IS NOW MASSING ALL ITS POTENTIAL AND RESOURCES TO OPPOSE THIS PLOT STEADFASTLY."

6. ATTACKING PROPOSED AMERICAN PRESENCE IN SINAI,
COLUMNIST ADNAN BADR OF PRO-IRAQI "BEIRUT" WRITES:
"OFFICIAL AMERICAN PRESENCE IN SINAI TODAY COMES AS
INSTRUMENT TO PROTECT RETREAT OF MAJOR ARAB REGIMES INTO
CAGE OF 'PEACE", FOR IT GIVES MILITARY TECHNICIANS, I.E.
CIA, CHANCE TO SUPERVISE DIRECTLY MOST IMPORTANT ... MOVES
IN EGYPT.... MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
ISRAELI OCCUPATION OF ARAB LANDS AND AMERICAN ...
OCCUPATION OF SURRENDERIST ARAB REGIMES REVEALS TRUE
NATURE OF SETTLEMENT AND OF PLANNED TRANSACTION, WHICH
WILL TRADE ISRAELI OCCUPATION OF SOME ARAB LANDS FOR
ISRAELI-AMERICAN OCCUPATION OF MANY ARAB REGIMES."

7. IN ANOTHER ATTACK ON SINAI ACCORD, COLUMNIST IBRAHIM
AMIR OF LEFTIST "AS-SAFIR" WRITES: "CLEAREST RESULT OF
SINAI DEAL IS MORE AMERICAN ... SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL IN FORM
OF ASSISTANCE, POLITICAL COORDINATION, AND SINAI PRESENCE.
WHILE AGREEMENT ... DEPRIVES EGYPT OF RIGHT TO RESORT TO
FORCE, IT LEAVES ISRAEL RIGHT TO OPT FOR MILITARY ACTION,
AT LEAST AGAINST PALESTINIAN 'TERRORISTS'".... SINAI ACCORD
IS IN ISRAEL'S AND AMERICA'S INTEREST FIRST AND FOREMOST."

8. CALLING ON U.S. TO BE NEUTRAL, COLUMNIST TAWFIQ
ASH-SHIMALI WRITES IN PRO-EGYPTIAN "AL-YAWM": "FEAR OF
INVOLVEMENT IN SECOND VIETNAM IS SPREADING IN CONGRESS....
IF CONGRESS FEELS THAT RUNNING BEHIND ISRAEL COULD GET
AMERICAN INTO ANOTHER BITTER INVOLVEMENT, WHY DOES IT GO ON
'FLIRTING' WITH TEL AVIV...? WE DO NOT WANT TO FORCE
AMERICAN ... TO BE FOR ARABS.... WE JUST WANT IT TO BE
NEUTRAL."
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(OPE NOTE: MCS TO FOLLOW OPB 02 SEP)

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